

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Naval Medical School in Baku (Bakinskoye Voenno-Morskoye Meditsinskoye Uchilishche) was originally located in Leningrad but late in 1941 a part of the school was evacuated from Leningrad and organized in Baku. The school remained in Baku until summer 1942 when, because of the war, it was transferred to Vereshchagino (N58-05, E54-40), Molotov Oblast, and housed in one of the school buildings close to the railroad station. Early in 1943, because of the shortage of billeting facilities, the school was moved to Krasnoyarsk (N56-02, E92-48), Krasnoyarskiy Kray, Prospekt Stalino, No. 41, where it remained until the latter part of World War II. I do not know whether this school was moved from Krasnoyarsk after World War II. Most probably it was returned to Leningrad, although I do not have any information on this subject.
2. The task of the Naval Medical School was to train prospective naval medical assistants. The length of the course was four years; candidates for the school had to have ten years of education. During World War II, however, this requirement was not strictly observed and the school accepted candidates with as little as seven years of education. The school's annual enrollment was approximately 300 students. The age limit for civilian candidates was 23 years old and for those of the Navy, 28 years old. There were not too many candidates accepted from the Navy, their number did not exceed ten percent of the total class enrollment. Candidates coming from the Soviet Navy to the school were immediately assigned as section or platoon leaders of their classes.

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Candidates for the NMS had to undergo a rather rigid medical examination and were also required to pass tests in mathematics, physics, geography of the USSR and foreign countries, history, Russian language, Russian literature, chemistry, and history of the Communist Party.

25X1 [redacted] of these, 100 were dropped -- either on medical or educational entrance examinations -- so that only 300 were finally accepted. Because of the extreme need for medical assistants during World War II, 25X1 [redacted] courses were shortened -- first to three and then to two years, instead of the usual four years. For the same reason, the number of students dropped from the school because of low marks and disciplinary violations was held to a minimum and did not exceed three to four percent.

3. The NMS was organized along naval lines. The school's commanding officer was Col. (fnu) FRADKIN, MC. He had three deputies: the deputy for education, Lt. Col. ARDALOV, MC; the deputy for administration; and the deputy for political matters. 25X1 [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] The school's administration was composed of the:

- a. Personnel section (Stroyevoy Otdel).
- b. Educational group.
- c. Administration and supply section.
- d. School commandant.
- e. Party office, Komsomol, library.
- f. MGB representative (Smersh).

4. Subjects taught in school are listed below according to their importance:

a. First year

- (1) Human anatomy (normal anatomy, as distinct from pathological anatomy). Lecturer: Lt. Col. ARDALOV, MC.
- (2) Physiology (Normal'naya Fiziologiya).
- (3) Microbiology.
- (4) Internal diseases.
- (5) Chemical warfare.
- (6) Latin.
- (7) Naval service.
- (8) History of the Communist Party.
- (9) Physical training and drill.

In terms of percentage of time, the first year program was: anatomy, 20%; physiology, 15%; microbiology, 10%; chemical warfare, 10%; Latin, 5%; naval service, 15%; physical training and drill, 10%. After the completion of these courses, which lasted for about 10 months, students of the NMS were sent throughout USSR for practical training on Navy ships.

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b. Subjects taught the second year were:

- (1) Pathological anatomy, by Lt. Col. ARDOLOV, MC.
- (2) Pathological physiology.
- (3) Microbiology.
- (4) Surgery.
- (5) Therapeutics.
- (6) Skin and VD.
- (7) ENT diseases.
- (8) Eye diseases.
- (9) Pharmacology.
- (10) Health and prophylactics.
- (11) Latin.
- (12) History of the Communist Party.

In terms of percentage, the time was divided in the following way: pathological anatomy, 15%; pathological physiology, 10%; microbiology, 5%; surgery, therapeutics, skin and VD, ENT, and eye diseases, 10% each; pharmacology, 5%; health and prophylactics, 5%, Latin, 5%; and History of the Communist Party, 5%.

5. In addition to the theoretical instruction given in both courses, students received some practical training in therapeutics, anatomy, physiology, microbiology, and naval service. The therapeutical practical training was given in military and civilian hospitals located in the school's vicinity. Practical training in anatomy and physiology was given in the school's laboratory, which was provided with the necessary equipment, models, charts, etc. There was also a well-equipped biological laboratory which had many microscopes and other instruments. Practical training in the naval service was given in the naval laboratory, which was equipped with model navigation equipment and weapons such as naval guns, torpedoes, mines, naval navigation instruments, etc. The study of surgery was done by theoretical instruction and attendance at surgical operations in local hospitals. At the latter occasions, students served as nurses, anesthetists, etc. In some cases they even assisted in the placement of casts.
6. In the practical training courses, special emphasis was put on the actual duties of a nurse and medical assistant in the hospital. Although students of NMS were supposed to act as nurses and medical assistants in order to familiarize themselves with these duties, the nurses and medical assistants often used students to do their work.

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This practice was sometimes detrimental to the patient, but many students acquired considerable practical experience this way. Also very helpful in this respect was the obligatory 24 hours a week of hospital duty required of all NMS second-year students; these students substituted for the ward's nurses or medical assistants. At the end of the second year, and as a part of practical training, students, under the supervision of medical doctors, were required to make diagnoses of ambulatory patients.

7. The students lived in the school's dormitories. They wore naval uniforms and visorless caps which showed the school's name. Food was served in the school's mess three times daily. Quarters, food, tobacco, and uniforms were supplied by the Navy without charge to students. In addition to this, every student received 60 rubles for pocket money monthly. Students were given passes until 2200 hours on Saturday afternoon and Sunday.
8. After completion of the full course of the NMS, students had to pass an examination before a commission composed of school personnel, several medical doctors, specialists from local hospitals, and a representative of the Medical Department of the Naval Ministry in Moscow. Graduates were granted 10 to 15 days' vacation, after which they were given their diplomas and promoted to lieutenant, MC, USSR Navy. They were then supplied with naval officer's uniforms without charge, approximately 400 rubles, and assigned immediately as medical assistants either to naval vessels or to naval hospitals. 25X1
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10. another similar NMS was located either in Vladivostok or Murmansk; these two schools were the only ones of this type in the USSR.
11. The diploma of an NMS, as well as an army medical school graduate, was equal to the diploma of a civilian medical assistant. Once demobilized and retired from active service, a graduate of the NMS was qualified to hold the position of civilian medical assistant.

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